GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3143
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
GROWTH RATE IN AGRICULTURE
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to achieve four percent growth in Agriculture Sector in the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Approach Paper for the 11th Five-Year Plan has placed around 4.1% per annum growth in the Agriculture Sector during 11th Five-Year Plan. The 11th plan strategy to raise agricultural output is based broadly on the following elements:-

Doubling the rate of growth of irrigated area; Improving water management, rain water harvesting and watershed development;
Reclaiming degraded land and focusing on soil quality;
Bridging the knowledge gap through effective extension;
Strengthening basic and strategic research in farm sector;
Diversifying into high value outputs, fruits, vegetables, flowers, herbs and spices, medicinal plants, bamboo, bio-diesel etc., but with adequate measures to ensure food security;
Promoting animal husbandry and fishery;
Providing easy access to credit at affordable rates;
Improving the incentive structure and functioning of markets;
Refocusing on land reforms issues.